

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (New) A digital image forming apparatus comprising:  
a store configured to store a plurality of data in a stored order;  
a selection device configured to select an arbitrary desired data order for the plurality of data in the store without regard to the stored order;  
a linking controller configured to link the plurality of data from the store into the arbitrary desired data order selected by the selection device to form a data group for performing an operation;  
an operation controller configured to receive the data group from the linking controller and to control performance of the operation using the data in the data group in the arbitrary desired data order selected by the selection input device.

Claim 7. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the plurality of data in the store includes image data or document data or both image data and document data.

Claim 8. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the operation controlled by the operation controller includes a printing job.

Claim 9. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the plurality of data in

the store includes print job finishing conditions and said operation includes print job finishing.

Claim 10. (New) A computer program stored on a machine readable medium, the computer program comprising:

first program means for controlling storing of a plurality of data in a storage order;

second program means for selecting an arbitrary desired data order of the plurality of data without regard to the storage order;

third program means for linking the stored data selected in said arbitrary desire data order to form a data group for performing an operation;

forth program means for controlling performing the operation using the data in the data group in the selected arbitrary desired data order.

Claim 11. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the plurality of data includes image data or document data or both image data and document data.

Claim 12. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the operation includes a printing job.

Claim 13. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein the plurality of data includes print job finishing conditions and said operation includes print job finishing.

Claim 14. (New) A method of linking independent data from different locations in a storage device to form ordered linked data, comprising:

storing a plurality of data in a storage order;

selecting an arbitrary desired operation order for the plurality of data without regard to the storage order;

linking the plurality of data into the arbitrary desired operation order selected in the selecting step to form a data group for performing an operation;

performing the operation using the data in the data group in the selected arbitrary desired data order.

Claim 15. (New) The method according to Claim 14 including a step of producing the plurality of data to include image data or document data or both image data and document data.

Claim 16. (New) The method according to Claim 14, wherein the operation is a print job.

Claim 17. (New) The method according to Claim 16, wherein the plurality of data includes print job finishing conditions and said operation includes print job finishing.